

Headquarters EMPLOYEE BULLETIN

26 July 1972

RED CROSS EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR AID TO FLOOD VICTIMS

1. The Chairman, United States Civil Service Commission has requested that Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies inform their installations of the needs of the Red Cross in providing assistance to victims of the recent floods.

2. As you are aware, severe devastation due to flooding has occurred in many states. Indeed, several Agency families suffered heavy damage from the flooding caused by tropical storm Agnes. The Red Cross needs more than \$10 million to aid flood victims in Virginia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and other affected areas.

3. According to Red Cross information, approximately 112,000 refugees were housed in Red Cross shelters from Florida to New York as of 5 July 1972. Thousands of Red Cross volunteers and disaster specialists are assisting families in the aftermath of the flood. Red Cross preliminary surveys in the Mid-Atlantic States alone indicate that over 30,000 families will need extensive Red Cross help. Some of our own people can attest to the help they have already received.

4. It is understandable that current disaster operations have depleted the fund which the Red Cross sets aside to meet such natural disasters. Because this emergency comes at a time when disaster funds are already seriously depleted, the American National Red Cross has increased its campaign goal for this national disaster from \$5 million to \$10 million. The Red Cross has asked for additional support from Federal employees to help meet this goal.

5. Although there will be no Agency fund-raising campaign to assist flood victims, employees are encouraged to help in this emergency appeal by sending their contributions to their local Red Cross Chapter or to: The American National Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund, Washington, D. C. 20006.

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